

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:AMB. TOON/HG/JL

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 036993

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, YO

SUBJECT: US-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS: FEBRUARY 8 MEETING
OF AMBASSADORS TOON AND GRANFIL

1. FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF FEBRUARY 8 CONVERSATION
BETWEEN AMBASSADOR TOON AND YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR GRANFIL.
GRANFIL OPENED DISCUSSION BY EXPRESSING CONCERN, WHICH
HE CLAIMED WAS SHARED BY MANY TOP GOY OFFICIALS, ABOUT
STRAIN IN US-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS WHICH HAD DEVELOPED
SINCE LAST FALL. GRANFIL SAID TITO HAD INSTRUCTED HIM
PERSONALLY TO CARRY MESSAGE TO WASHINGTON THAT YUGOSLAVIA
QUOTE WANTS NO CONFRONTATION WITH US END QUOTE. RECENT
MUTING OF CONTENTIOUS CRITICISMS OF US BY YUGOSLAV
OFFICIALS - FOR EXAMPLE IN NEW DELHI AND DACCA COMMUNIQUE
WAS QUOTE NO ACCIDENT END QUOTE. GRANFIL CHARACTERIZED
YUGOSLAV DECISION TO AWARD CONTRACT FOR KRSKO NUCLEAR
POWER PLANT TO US FIRM AS POLITICAL DECISION TAKEN PERSON-
ALLY BY TITO AND EXPRESSED HOPE SECRETARY DENT COULD VISIT
YUGOSLAVIA TO WITNESS SIGNING OF CONTRACT AND GIVE
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GREATER SIGNIFICANCE TO OCCASION. OTHER HIGH-LEVEL VISITS

ADVOCATED BY GRANFIL INCLUDED VISIT BY DEPUTY SECRETARY RUSH, VISIT TO US IN FALL BY PREMIER BIJEDIC, AND VISIT BY SECRETARY SCHLESINGER WHEN CONDITIONS ARE RIGHT. GRANFIL ALSO STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF CLOSE AND OPEN RELATIONS BETWEEN US AND YUGOSLAVIA AT TIME WHEN SOVIETS

WERE BEING QUOTE VERY FLATTERING END QUOTE TOWARD YUGOSLAV LEADERSHIP. TOON REMINDED GRANFIL THAT A GOOD BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP REQUIRED EACH SIDE TO RESPECT OTHER'S SENSITIVITIES AND EXPRESSED HOPE THERE WOULD BE NO REPETITION OF YUGOSLAVIA'S BLATANT DISREGARD OF VITAL US INTERESTS.

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